

the area administered by the Leckford Estate (John Lewis Partership) but not within any of the series of small nature reserves which have been set aside for long term entomological study and we have to thank the administrators of the Estate for the opportunity to participate in the Biological Survey which has been in progress there now since 1969.

#### References

- Becker, T. (1894). Dipterologische Studien. I. Scatomyzidae, *Berl. ent. Zeit.*, **39**: 77-196.
- Becker, T. (1900). Beiträge zur Dipteren-Fauna Sibiriens. Nordwest-Sibirische Dipteren gesammelt von Prof. John Sahlberg aus Helsingfors im Jahre 1876 und Dr E. Bergroth aus Tammerfors im Jahre 1877, *Acta Soc. Sci. Fenn.*, **26**: 66.
- Chandler, P. J. & Stubbs, A. E., (1969). A species of *Norellia* R.-D. (Dipt., Scatophagidae) new to Britain, *Proc. Brit. ent. nat. hist. Soc.*, **2** (4): 120-124
- Chandler, P. J., (1970). A supplementary note on *Norellia* R.-D. (Dipt., Scatophagidae), *Proc. Brit. ent. hist. Soc.*, **3** (1): 12.
- Collin, J. E., (1958). A short synopsis of the British Scatophagidae (Dipt.), *Trans. Soc. Brit. Ent.*, **13** (3): 37-56
- Hackman, W. (1956). The Scatophagidae of Eastern Fennoscandia, *Faun. Fenn.*, **2**: 1-67.
- Lloyd, L. L., Graham, J. F. & Reynoldson, T. B. (1940), Materials for a study in animal competition. The fauna of the sewage Bacteria Beds *Ann. appl. Biology*, **27**: 122-150.
- Nelson, J. M. (1965). *Scoliaphleps ustulata* Zetterstedt (Dipt., Scatophagidae) new to Britain, *Entomologist*, **98**: 65.
- Nelson, M. (1972) *Coniosternum tinctinervis* Becker, a Scatophagid fly new to Britain (Diptera). *Entomologist's Gaz.*, **23**: 247-248.
- Sack, P. (1937). Die Fliegen der Palaarktischen Region (E. Lindner). 62. Cordyluridae. 1-103. Berlin.
- Seguy, E. (1952). Diptera. Fam. Scatophagidae. IN Wytzman, P. (Ed.), *Genera Insectorum*, **209**: 1-107

## *Andricus lignicolus* (Hartig) (Hym.: Cynipidae) in S.E. England: A Species New to Britain

By MARGARET M. HUTCHINSON  
(The Croft House, Inval, Haslemere, Surrey)

On 25th October 1972 I found six small galls which I took to be poor specimens of the agamic form of *Andricus kollari* (Hartig) ("Oak marbles"). They were on a small tree of *Quercus robur* along the Rhinefield Ornamental Drive near Brockenhurst in the New Forest. They were woody, rough and scaly. Four had emergence holes. I took the other two home and numbered them 438vs (very small) and 439vs. I kept them in separate phials with the oak marbles I was studying for breeding.

On 29th June 1973 I opened them. 438 was empty; 439 contained a dead perfect insect that was brown like a small specimen of *A. kollari*. I kept it with its gall as an instance of a small gall producing a perfect insect and not parasites as

is generally the case.

On 29th September 1973 I found on Wiggonholt Common near Pulborough, West Sussex, a cluster of three galls similar to those from the New Forest. On a nearby tree were a few more. I also found *Andricus corruptrix* (Schlechtendal) agamic form, and *A. kollari*. I felt sure now that these galls were not *A. kollari* for on close examination they were all scaly, light grey brown with "light red" (as in a paint box) patches where the scales burst open. They all measured between eight and ten millimetres across by seven to eight tall. They grew from leaf scars, evidently usurping the place of 1973 buds.

On 4th October I found a similar gall<sup>\*</sup> at Inval, Haslemere, my home. On visiting Wiggonholt Common again on 22nd October I found a number more, most of which I left, but brought home a twig with nine galls on it.

From 30th October to 3rd November I was in the New Forest where I found similar galls in small numbers in six different localities. All were on *Q. robur*. At Inval again I found one on a large *Q. robur* and one on a stunted growth on 12th November and 9th December respectively. These I left on the trees, marking their twigs with coloured string.

There seems no doubt that this is a new gall to Britain, *Andricus lignicolus* (Hartig), clearly illustrated in Dr Van Leeuwen's "Gallenbock" and described by him also in *Tijdschrift v. Entomologie*, 1956, vol. 98. It is closely allied to *corruptrix* and *kollari*, and all three use *Quercus cerris* as the host of the sexual generation.

Young specimens of *corruptrix* have the same warty appearance and same colouring when seen under magnification. As they become weathered the scales wear off, at least over the top, which becomes shiny and lobed, and are therefore quite unlike *lignicolus* in shape as well as in size, for they are much smaller.

The mature insects of *corruptrix* I have found to emerge between late May and early August. Van Leeuwen gives July as the month in which *lignicolus* emerges.

One very small *lignicolus* that was growing up against a larger one yielded a female Chalcid parasite, *Mesopobus tibialis* (Westwood) on 2nd December 1973. Mr John Quinlan of the Department of Entomology, British Museum, who has been kindly helping me with my investigations, identified this parasite. Both he and I have specimens of *lignicolus* from which we hope to procure perfect insects. These may then be examined by Mr Quinlan and positioned in the key to British Hymenopterous gall causers.

Now, here is the rub. As long ago as 1968 I had brought in an insignificant, malformed "oak marble" which I only kept because I failed to throw it away. In March 1969 I found it had yielded up its insect, but it was mouldy and had NO LABEL. I still kept it for interest. On examining it recently it proved to be *Andricus lignicolus*, and is actually the first record for the British Isles. Well — one lives and learns!